

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed 8/14/06, the Examiner required election of one of following groups: Group I, comprising Claims 1-22 and 24-29, and Group II, comprising Claim 23. The applicants hereby elect Group I (Claims 1-22 and 24-29) without traverse. The Applicants have cancelled Claim 23 in response to the restriction requirement.

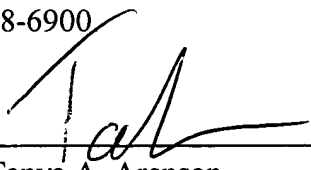
The Examiner has further required a species election to a specifically named species selected from the group of SEQ ID NO:5 and sequences that hybridize to SEQ ID NO:7. The applicants hereby elect SEQ ID NO:5 for initial examination. Applicants remind that Examiner that upon allowance of a generic claims, Applicants are entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim (37 C.F.R. 1.141).

All amendments and cancellation of claims are made without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's arguments or rejections, and solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals (PBG),¹ and without waiving the right to prosecute the cancelled claims (or similar claims) in the future.

CONCLUSION

If a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned collect at (618) 218-6900

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¹ 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (Sept., 8, 2000).